



KUDOS FOR BONANZA: Four of several hundred industry leaders who gathered at Las Vegas last month to commemorate America's first all-jet powered airline are, left to right: Stuart Tipton, president of the Air Transport Association; Hon. Whitney Gilliland, Chairman of the Civil Aeronautics Board and principal speaker at the affair; Joseph P. Adams, executive director of the Association of Local Transport Airlines; and Edmund Converse, president of Bonanza Air Lines, now converted entirely to Fairchild F-27 prop-jet transports. Modernization of the Bonanza fleet is given credit for a 42 per cent increase in operating revenues during the past year.

A Bonanza First

LAST month many leaders in the industry gathered in Las Vegas, Nevada, to pay homage to Bonanza Air Lines, one of the nation's most progressive local air carriers, and to commemorate the occasion of Bonanza becoming the first all jet-powered airline in America.

Bonanza retired the last of its faithful DC-3's and is now operating a fleet of eight Fairchild F-27 Rolls-Royce powered transports. During the first year of partial operations with the F-27, Bonanza chalked up a 32 per cent increase in passenger traffic which distinguished the line as second

in the local carrier industry in rate of growth and fourth highest in the entire domestic airline industry. Commercial revenue in 1959 was over \$1 million for a 42 per cent increase over 1958. For the fourth consecutive year Bonanza led the domestic airline industry in operating performance by completing 99.2 per cent of schedules. All these records, especially in passenger miles flown, are expected to be exceeded this year.

The entire aviation industry is proud of Bonanza's accomplishments because progress such as this strengthens our entire domestic airline structure, gives substance to the wisdom of Federal policy in extending scheduled air services to more and more communities and above all proves conversion to modern flying equipment is the first step to wider public acceptance of short haul operations and to the ultimate elimination of subsidy requirements.

Congratulations are certainly in order for every member of the Bonanza team, from the sweeper in the hangar to President Ed Converse. The enviable distinction of being America's first all-jet powered airline is not only a proud milestone in aviation history but a tribute to every man and woman in the dedicated Bonanza organization.